

2007 ECCC Road Season Survey

Thanks for participating in this year's survey. We churned through your responses and glimpsed into the lives of many teams as we perused the flood of photos and comments. The following is a compilation of the best, the worst, and most memorable from 2007.

- Caitlin T, Kmonster, Kopena, Julius K, and Andrew A.

Disclaimer: The following does in no way represent the thoughts or feelings of anyone official. The words are not legally binding and the votes might have been miscounted.



Mr Nibbles sleeps soundly, his work done for the season...

BASIC INFO

UVM surprised us all. Having never filled out the survey before, 21 of the Vermonsters crawled out of the woodwork to fill out our lovely questionnaire.



MIT also used the survey as their new recruiting tool and successfully suckered in 16 new survey-ers.



THE VANITY OF CYCLING:

Best team jersey:

- 1) *Vassar* had an overwhelming number of write-in votes. (Sorry for not including them).
- 2) *Bucknell* also received a handful of votes again this year for their classic blue kits.



Worst team jersey:



Williams takes the cake for another year, followed closely by *Lehigh* for teams that need to take a closer look at their spandex style.

Harvard was the only redone kit to be voted for.

Best Fashion Accessory:

1) *BIG Sunglasses* with special mention of Slim's purple shades, white Prada sunglasses, and Nick Frey's "whore goggles"

2) *RHINESTONES* whether they be on neck braces, helmets, or bikes

3) *WHITE SKIN SUITS*: "honestly, what team other than bucknell could fill a minimum order for white skinsuits?"

4) *Camo hot pants*



Hottest Bike:

We are obsessed with our rides, and clearly ogling other people's. Nick Frey's Ibis got 8 votes while Dartmouth's Team Aegis bikes got 6.

"Frey's, duh. i mean a 13 lb bike that isn't even geared for real climbs? true college prowess right there."



Check out that front crank and single bottle cage.

Old Skool Racer: Kevin Miller from Rutgers (6), Zuzana Trnovcova from MIT (4), Mike Chen from CMU (4)

*Over 20 teams were nominated for each of the following categories. Clearly there is a lot of appreciation within the conference for all of those who spend their lives in spandex.

Sexiest Female Team:

UNH won hands down. PSU, Dartmouth and Lehigh also got a ton of votes

The fine ladies of the UNH team posing for their official team pics.



*These votes were recalculated to not include people voting for their own team. However that didn't actually change the results.

Sexiest Male Team:

An overwhelming amount of people voted for the men of *UVM!*
Followed by *Drexel*, *Bucknell* and *Princeton*.



WHEN RUBBER HITS THE ROAD

Most Unorthodox Winter Training Plan:

Drinking, particularly Belgian Beer and riding the road bike through snow and in sub-zero temperatures

“studded tires, cyclocross, and fine belgian beer”

“Usually a regiment of womanizing, boozing, and general unproductivity.”

Most Dedicated Rider:

Joe Kopena

“Kopena, by far. That guy will be racing collegiate cycling until his children are racing in A.”

“Joe Kopena--promotes races, races his butt off, competes with his girlfriend for the biggest race of the year, T-shirt sales--you name it. Joe is the ECCC.”

Katie Dunn

“katie dunn- was at more races than anyone, despite the fact that she was only able to line up for one race this reason”

“The entire ECCC, it really is, whether its being poured on, snowed on, sun burned, driving twelve hours or anything else, we all show up, race like hell and have a fantastic time.”



Best Found Item:

- 1) Gallons of urine
- 2) Tufts team dildo
- 3) Condoms

“I don't think anything can compete with the team dildo that I found in my passenger seat after every race”

“A used condom and a syringe”

“Rubber Chicken with a condom over its head at the Beanpot Crit”

Other good answers:

“I keep finding legs on the side of the road after race weekends. They appear to have been ripped off.”

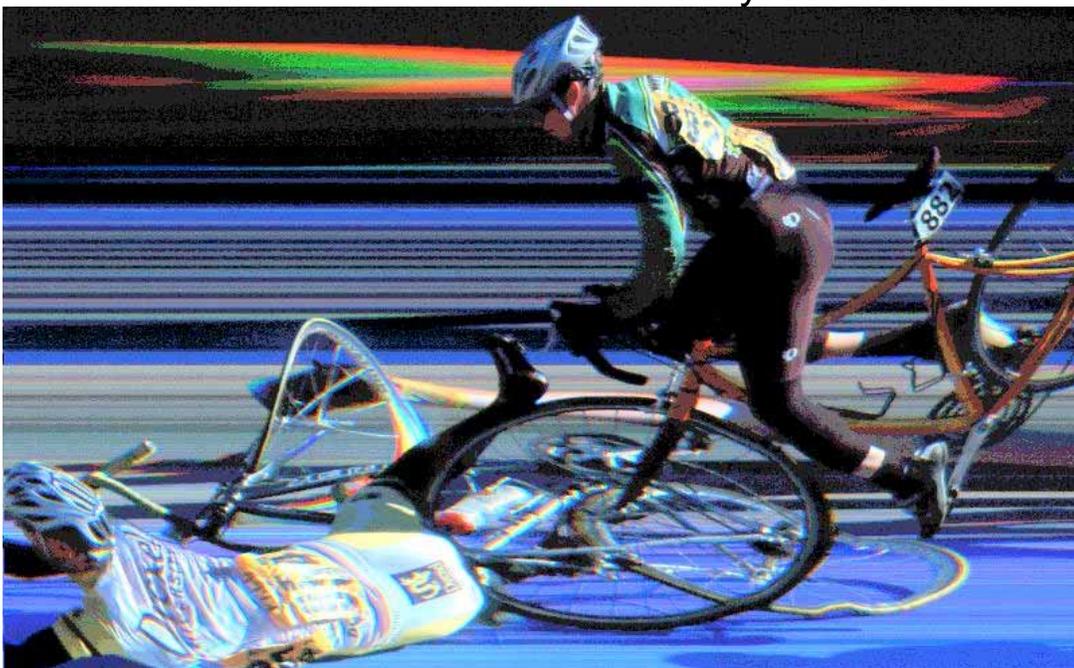
“My pride. In a ditch. Right next to the pile of skin that was the result of somebody putting Colin Murphy into the curb... and causing a 12-rider pileup in the Easterns Crit.”

“An open penthouse with a dead squirrel on top.”

Most Embarrassing Crash:

An overwhelming victory for Tim Manzella of Drexel crashing at the finish of the Beanpot crit.

Forever immortalized on velocityresults.net



Best Victory Salute: Jamie Driscoll at the Eastern's Road Race, Toby Marzot's Wheelie at Bucknell, and Jeremy Jo ripping the legs off the C field at the Rutgers Crit



(One wheelie is just like the next. And I guess it's Toby's favorite way to end an excellent race. Demonstrated again on the left at Nationals)

HANDS ON THE BARS PEOPLE! "Those are expressly prohibited. I think we'd know better than that."

STYLE POINTS

Steel Cage Deathmatch:

- 1) *Mr. Nibbles* - 46.5%
- 2) Kopena – 29.7%
- 3) Abramson – 25.7%



Biggest Trash Talker:

The trio of *Abramson* and the *Nicks* of Princeton (Bennette and Frey)

Best Race Conversation:

(Tie)

Alex Wooten (UPenn) and *Alex Duggan (UMass)*

“Abramson and Duggan at Army. Alex just wouldn't shut up, and Mark just wouldn't stop telling him to shut up. Alex would probably win some races if he wasn't using 80% of his oxygen to keep up the gab, ALL RACE LONG...”

“Alex from U Penn expressing his joy at finally rupturing a huge ass-pimple that had been dogging him for a month.”

Best Pick-up Line:

Katie Dunn's phone number in every musette bag handed out at Easters

“Summer soigneur? Leg massage? Warm-up gel? [insert phone number here] Yeah. Those were tags sewn into the musette bags. Act of desperation? I think so. But, still, CLASSY.”

“Kate Dunn's number in EVERY musette bag. That shows dedication, a disturbing level of desperation and a realization that you gotta plant a lot of seeds.”

“<http://musettebags.com/>”



Other good answers: "Didn't someone propose at Rutgers? Shouldn't we be making fun of these people? The guy didn't even win a race, let alone just finish one. Can somebody please shed some light on this?!"

"Hey, want me to lube your nipples?"

"My bike's broken. Can I ride you instead?"

Worst Pick-up Line:

Winner with 2 votes: "Penn State's, Brent DiLella, chasing the Women's A field in the feed zone during the Easterns RR"

Other ones that are so bad they're good: "I have to stand up a lot to avoid numbness"

"I'm so fast, it just seems like I'm slow. It's kind of like how superman travels back in time. –Anonymous"

"Caitlin Thompson swooping in all the time to keep Kopena away from the women's intro racers! Terrible!"

"I'm single your single and Kopena is nowhere in site."

Best Nickname:

1) *UNH Star Wars nicknames*

2) Headwind-Chris Hong, Lion King-Nick Bennette, Sexy Steve

Best Fraternalizing:

Dartmouth-UVM Peep Off (5), Blow up doll, um, ordeal (4), Drexel-Cortland love (3)

Best Hair: Mullets take all with 15 votes, 9 of which were for Jamie Driscoll's, 7 votes for Benette's lion mane

IT'S LIKE HERDING CATS

Best Team Vehicle:
Bucknell Short Bus
and Dartmouth's
Sprinter

Other notables: Army
Hummers and the
Shitbox



Best Host:

(Tie)

Vassar + Emily Smith

“VASSAR by far. It was spectacular. The campus was beauuuuutiful and the awards banquet was awesome because there was alcohol. The campus was perfect for touring. They were perfect for hanging out in. They are just real fresh in general.”

“Emily Elizabeth Smith had the BU and MIT teams sleeping on the floors of her house, her mother got up at some god-awful hour and made breakfast, and after the race on Saturday, invited pretty much the entire ECCC and ACCC to come over for pizza.”

“Emily Smith's Aunt. Hands down. I mean, there was a table covered in travel size things.”

BIGGER EVERY YEAR

Best Recruiting Strategy:

There are many different opinions on growing teams. Last year the Caitlins tried to pass on their wisdom at the conference meeting in November, however the survey responses might hint at even more productive ways to insure growth in your teams and the need for a short bus and trailer.

- 1) Lots of promises of girls in revealing spandex
- 2) Wearing skinsuits around campus
- 3) Stealing from other sports

“Hot girls. In Spandex. Changing in the parking lot.”

“Next year's plan is more trainer sessions in front of Drexel's gym in our skinsuits, to get the attention of all the hotties with our sexyness and build up the women's team.”

“Moon more people on our van rides. Dress the women in more revealing clothing for the lonely.”

Best Photo:

Most votes to Tim from Drexel crashing in the mens D crit at Beanpot on the finish line....

Other notables...









Best Event:

Vassar stomped all over the established Boston Beanpot and the Philly Phlyer to be crowned the best weekend. Must have been the pink water bottle tops.

Best Race That Didn't Happen:

- 1) Columbia (38.7%)
- 2) UVM RR (29.7%)
- 3) UNH (23.4%)
- 4) Princeton (18%)

Best Race That Happened When Others Didn't:

- 1) Other (38.9%)
- 2) Team training ride (26.3%)

- 3) local crit (17.9%), peep-off (16.8%)
- 4) Turtle Pond/Myles Standish (14.7%)

“Spurgh 'Springh Classic on UNH weekend. UPitt put together a crit at the Washington Blvd public oval in Pittsburgh then an ITT up Sycamore St in the heart of the 'burgh that put the Army ITT to shame. And it was glorious weather!”

“slept in!”

“The Peep-Off was amazing, but shockingly non-vegan friendly. UMD's crit during the Princeton/Columbia weekend was pretty interesting. Very different from most ECCC races in terms of the size and the nature of the course permitted by the smaller fields. Very tight & twisty.”

“Running in the snow.”

DO IT FOR LOVE

We couldn't just choose one, so here are all of the responses for the best moments of the season and the reason we all gather together every weekend no matter what mother nature does.

- 1) This year I did it for ECCC love--post win embraces, not getting to the feed zone on time, putting 6 pins into a number faster than ANYONE, playing mom, giving leg massages, making musette bags, and capping off the season with finally getting back on the bike and riding the TTT with my wonderful teammates. I may have also gotten a little teary eyed writing this response. Gah. Emotions. Where did those come from?
- 2) I didn't know what else to do with myself.
- 3) The people!!! Looking back at 4 years of college, these folks have made it all worthwhile, really inspiring and fun all around.
- 4) seeing joe kopena
- 5) MR NIBBLES!
- 6) Winning the Ivy League Trophy as well as the Easterns Omnium!!!!!!
- 7) Finishing Vassar's RR
- 8) Seeing Dartmouth covered in cake.
- 9) when i noticed that my speed suit kinda gave me cleavage: priceless
- 10) Being able to hang tough and suffer through a separated shoulder to finish 18th at the Army Men's A RR. That hurt. A huge chunk of the time I was on the bike, I couldn't feel half my hand, because I have ulnar nerve damage. I probably had a solid 50% range of motion in my left arm. On top of that, I missed my feeds and got through the 70 miles on 2 gels and 2 bottles. It's not a good result... but it was a huge psychological victory.
- 11) simple...love of the sport and the great people
- 12) army road race
- 13) Getting away from my f'in roommate over the weekends!
- 14) ryan kelly, and his nakedness hanging out of vans on highways
- 15) The cold beer after the last race. And the colder trip across the Blue Ridge Parkway (which we did instead of the Virginia Tech race which we were going to do instead of UVM). VT had to cancel because of snow. It was a dusting. ACCC can't handle it.
- 16) I definitely do it for love. Love for a lot of people, riding my bike, and being outside.
- 17) MY TEAM!!!!!! I LOVE TUFTS CYCLING!!!!!!
- 18) Bucknells mens b road race...we worked awesome as a team and pulled off the win, 4th, and 2 other guys in the top 10...def the highlight of all the hard work paying off
- 19) Everything and anything about the season.
- 20) Bicycles.
- 21) Racing in the rain at Army
- 22) why wouldn't you do it?
- 23) Getting to race in As my final weekend in Easterns
- 24) The vassar RR, longest, most painful hills, but the awesome view and the riders in the course.

25) colin holmes murphy.
26) When I forgot my bag of clothes and other things at Pitt, and only brought my bike to Boston, had the brakes lock up on my a few miles into the race, and still managed to beat 5 people.

27) Next year.

28) me nailing lauren gifford in the face with a piece of cake from 25 feet away while she was on the podium.... i'm sorry.

29) vassar's banquet with free booze

30) once again, dominating dartmouth in the peep eating contest

31) the joy of knowing i get to do it all again next year.

32) The tour UVM cycling took of Vassar college. Or smashing/getting smashed in the face with cake between UVM and Dartmouth.

33) Baked Goods

34) the DUNIT!

35) being a part of the insanity that is UVM cycling

36) This was my last year racing, and I was so excited to be racing A's - after getting dropped in my first D circuit race at Penn State in 2004. To be racing with guys that I have looked up to for the past three years was fulfilling and so much fun. Plus, at race weekends I can act like an uncivilized idiot - pee in water jugs, stand on top of the van and scream, eat fast food as much as possible - and still be considered 'normal'.

37) The Vassar road race. It was awesome.

38) I got a medal!

39) Winning the Men's C TTT a home by a minute, then recapturing it at Easterns.

40) escape boredom

41) Reigniting an ex-pro's love for the sport, indoctrinating new people into the sport for life, realizing that we are a unit when another team said 'That Columbia guy is nuts!' and having one of our team reply, 'Yeah, but he's our nut!'

42) a new tan line

43) i-80 traffic

44) the insane, back to back powder days i got while every other poor sole in the ECCC was down at rugters.

45) Team 'party' during the A and B crits at Easterns. Cheering on our teammates never felt so good.

46) Racin' at the top, A's!

47) Having 23 Racers come to Easterns, and pull off something I wouldn't have even considered in March, winning the Weekend and the Ivy League, its been spectacular to watch this team grow and transform over the past 3 years.



- 48) Great calves. Plus it's a great excuse to ride fast.
- 49) Blocking for my teammate at the Bucknell C-men's crit. I've never been so happy to be hated.
- 50) The chance to hang out with a great group of guys! and laugh my ass off!
- 51) I was on the executive training program this year -- the one where you ride one hour during the week and then try to go long on the weekends. Needless to say, I got my ass handed to me on multiple occasions, i.e. every time I raced. However, finishing well in the lead pack at the Easterns crit was pretty awesome. What was more awesome was seeing my team kick serious ass all season long and grabbing our second championship in a row. That made it all worth it. Especially since I organized all the logistics for 8 of 9 weekends. Brutal.
- 52) Getting high on beta endorphins of course... but best of all, getting to hang out with and meet people who are almost as crazy as I am :)
- 53) watching two of my nameless teammates spend probably 15 hours in one weekend playing super mario 3 on a laptop, and losing horribly the whole time.
- 54) Watching my buddy who was a former overweight smoker dominate the 'D' field-- and love every minute of it!!
- 55) Finishing that EPIC Easterns RR course and spending time with my team mates
- 56) Finishing a crit that only a lap or two in you thought was impossible
- 57) Failing Civil Procedure. That was just the bee's knees.
- 58) Making it to mountain bike season.
- 59) Definitely the team.
- 60) The friends and bonding with the SUNY Cortland team.
- 61) Not cramping on the Vassar road course
- 62) when i really started getting how to ride in a road race...i was pretty stoked to not get dropped.
- 63) Intro races---Best. Thing. Ever.
- 64) every minute of race weekends
- 65) Drexel guys sportin skin suits
- 66) Memorial Hall crit sprint finish. Awesome.
- 67) What really made it all worth it in the end was fielding a team of C riders that destroyed the rest of the B field by more than 40 seconds in the TTT at Eastern's.
- 68) Excuses to eat absurd amounts of PB&J that would make any 'normal' human barf.
- 69) Abramson. That guy's ridiculous.

